

AMENDMENT AND PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS

Please replace all prior claims in the present application with the following claims, in which Claims 11, 15, 16, 18 and 19 are currently amended.

1.-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus in a knee replacement operation~~ for measuring a joint gap and ligament balance between an osteotomized surface at a [[femur]] distal end of a femur and an osteotomized surface at a [[tibia]] proximal end of a tibia, said apparatus comprising:

a base;

a first engaging member ~~provided on said base~~ for an engagement with said osteotomized surface at the [[tibia]] proximal end of the tibia;

a first arm obliquely connecting said base and said first engaging member to have a structure in which said base is configured to be positioned outside an area right in front of the tibia;

a moving body;

a second engaging member ~~provided on said moving body~~ for an engagement with said osteotomized surface at said [[femur]] distal end of the femur, said second engaging member being rotatable ~~on the moving body~~ about an axis substantially parallel with respect to said osteotomized surface at the [[femur]] distal end of the femur;

a second arm obliquely connecting said moving body and said second engaging member to have a structure in which said moving body is configured to be positioned outside an area right in front of the femur;

said base and said moving body being connected with each other so that the first and second engaging members are selectively moved between a direction where the first and second engaging members are moved toward each other and a direction where the first and second engaging members are moved away from each other;

a driving member configured to drive said moving body member with respect to the base so that the first and second engaging members are moved in the direction away from each other;

a stopper provided on the moving body and configured to engage with the driving member to restrain movement of the driving member in the direction where the first and second engaging members are moved toward each other;

a first indicator configured to indicate ~~[[the]]~~ a value corresponding ~~[[the]]~~ spacing between the first and second engaging members; and

a second indicator configured to indicate ~~[[the]]~~ a value corresponding ~~[[the]]~~ an angle between the first and second engaging members;

~~wherein said first and second engaging members have an offset structure with respect to said base and moving body, respectively, so that measuring operation is performed without patella eversion.~~

12. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said stopper is a ratchet member on the moving body, and wherein said driving member includes a ratchet wheel with which the ratchet member is engaged for preventing the ratchet wheel from being

rotated for locking the movement of the driving member in the direction where the first and second engaging members are moved toward each other.

13. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said moving body includes a shaft which is inserted to a bore in the base, and wherein said first indicator comprises a scale on the shaft.

14. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said second indicator includes a scale plate fixed on an outer side of the moving body and an indicating member extending from the second engaging member toward the scale plate, the indicating member having an end which is located along the scale plate.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~used in a knee replacement and arthroplasty operation~~ for measuring a joint gap and ligament balance between ~~[[a]]~~ an osteotomized surface at a ~~femoral~~ distal end of a femur and an osteotomized surface at a ~~tibial~~ proximal end of a tibia, said apparatus comprising:

a femoral component for an insertion to the osteotomized surface at the ~~a femoral~~ distal end of the femur;

a base;

a first engaging member ~~on said base~~ for an engagement with said osteotomized surface at the ~~tibial~~ proximal end of the tibia;

a first arm obliquely connecting said base and said first engaging member to have a structure in which said base is configured to be positioned outside an area right in front of the tibia;

a moving body;

a second engaging member ~~on said moving body~~ for an engagement with said osteotomized surface at said ~~femoral~~ distal end of the femur, said second engaging member being for mounting thereon said femoral component, said second engaging member being rotatable ~~on the moving body~~ about an axis substantially parallel with respect to said osteotomized surface at the ~~femoral~~ distal end of the femur;

a second arm obliquely connecting said moving body and said second engaging member to have a structure in which said moving body is configured to be positioned outside an area right in front of the femur;

said base and said moving body being connected with each other so that the first and second engaging members are selectively moved between a direction where the first and second engaging members are moved toward each other and a direction where the first and second engaging members are moved away from each other;

a driving member configured to move said moving body member with respect to the base so that the first and second engaging members are moved in the direction away from each other;

a stopper provided on the moving body and configured to engage with the driving member to restrain movement of the driving member in the direction where the first and second engaging members are moved toward each other;

a first indicator configured to indicate ~~[[the]]~~ a value corresponding ~~[[the]]~~ spacing between the first and second engaging members; and

a second indicator configured to indicate ~~[[the]]~~ a value corresponding ~~[[the]]~~ an angle between the first and second engaging members;

~~wherein said first and second engaging members have an offset structure with respect to said base and moving body, respectively, so that measuring operation is performed without patella eversion.~~

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said second engaging member has, at ~~[[its]]~~ a surface remote from the first engaging member, a fitting part, and wherein the apparatus further comprises an auxiliary guiding member for a ~~fitted~~ fitting engagement with said fitting part on the second engaging member and engaged with the femoral component.

17. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said fitting engagement between the fitting part of the second engaging member and the auxiliary guiding member is done under a snap engaging fashion.

18. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said stopper is a ratchet member on the moving body, and wherein said driving member includes a ratchet wheel with which the ratchet member is engaged for preventing the ratchet wheel from being rotated for locking ~~[[the]]~~ a movement of the driving member in the direction where the first and second engaging members are moved toward each other.

19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said moving body ~~include~~ includes a shaft which is inserted to a bore in the base, and wherein said first indicator comprises a scale on the shaft.

20. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said second indicator includes a scale plate fixed on an outer side of the moving body and an indicating member extending from the second engaging member toward an indicator plat, the indicating member having an end which is located along the scale plate.